

Whitwell

WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH

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BOROUGH OF COLWYN BAY.



ANNUAL REPORT

for the year 1937

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

WILLIAM McKENDRICK, M.D., D.P.H.

A. Dunwell, Princes Drive, Colwyn Bay.

BOROUGH OF COLWYN BAY



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WILLIAM McKENDRICK, M.D., D.P.H

HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1937-8.

Councillor W. Griffiths—Chairman.

Alderman T. R. Davies.	Councillor G. E. T. Hill
„ E. M. Hovey.	„ W. Howarth.
„ R. Howard.	„ D. Jones.
„ J. Roberts.	„ T. H. Morgan.
	„ E. A. Neill.
	„ J. Thomas.

Mayor of the Borough—Alderman R. Howard.

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 1938

Medical Officer of Health :

WM. McKENDRICK, M.D., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector :

WM. A. AUSTWICK, M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat & Other Foods
(Appointed April, 1938.)

Temporary Sanitary Inspector :

(December 1937 to April 1938).

F. J. LEVESLEY, Cert. S.I.B.

Lady Health Visitor :

MISS K. H. DAVIES,
State Registered Nurse, C.M.B., Cert. Q.V.T.I.

Matron of the Isolation Hospital :

MISS C. M. JONES, State Registered Nurse.

Clerk :

MRS. P. G. STORRS.

TOWN HALL,
COLWYN BAY,

3/6/38.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Health Committee of the Borough of Colwyn Bay.*

Miss Hovey and Gentlemen,

I submit herewith my report on the health of the citizens of Colwyn Bay and on the services provided by you to secure better health during 1937. The report follows closely the form required by the Minister of Health in Circular 1650 (Wales).

It is with deep regret that I have to record the death of Mr. J. Roberts and of Mr. C. Hunt, who for many years, have served you as Senior and Junior Sanitary Inspector, respectively. Mr. Roberts had for years been in ill-health but Mr. Hunt was struck down in the fore-noon of his life and in his prime. Mr. Roberts had given his best years to Colwyn Bay and was planning to retire soon—Mr. Hunt had just reached his ambition and would have proved a very valuable official.

Mr. W. A. Austwick has been appointed Sanitary Inspector. He took up his duties in April 1938. During the interim Mr. F. J. Levesley acted as temporary Sanitary Inspector.

I have also to record that my Clerk, Miss W. Cheshire, resigned in November to be married. I appreciated her work and wish her well in her new sphere. Mrs. P. Storrs was appointed in her place.

With these extensive changes in my staff, it will be appreciated that this report has been prepared under difficulties. Figures have varied surprisingly from those of previous years and I cannot obtain explanations. I therefore submit those parts that apply to the Sanitary Inspector's work with diffidence. The figures shown can be proved but may denote (probably do denote) much less than was actually performed,

When Mr. Roberts died, it was decided to dispense with the second Sanitary Inspector. A promise was made to the Ministry of Health that after twelve months a report would be submitted on the efficacy of this act. I cannot now advise as to the future, but a survey of the work to be done and the manner in which records have been kept in the past, suggests that for some time at any rate, the Department will require to work at very high pressure.

The report itself has little sensational to show. The death returns have varied slightly upwards but other figures approximate closely to last year.

It has been a difficult year for the Health services; there was the added work of the Anti-Tuberculosis Enquiry to cope with and a destructive fire destroyed all our refuse collection vehicles, etc., but I feel that they have maintained the standard set in previous years. For this I have to thank many people—Miss Cheshire (now Mrs. C. Jones), Nurse Davies, the Matron of the Isolation Hospital, together with the new members of my staff, Mrs. Storrs and Mr. Austwick. I do so most heartily. The manner in which the newcomers have cheerfully faced and overcome difficulties, augurs well for the happiness of the Department in future.

I have also to thank the voluntary workers at the Clinics—especially Miss Gameson, Miss Robinson and Miss Janet Hall.

Finally let me express my appreciation of the continued support and unfailing encouragement of you, Mr. Chairman, and members of the Health Committee.

Yours sincerely,

Wm. McKENDRICK,

Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

Area of Urban District (acres)	7,124
Census Population, 1931	20,885
Estimated Population, 1934	21,320
Number of Live Births	218
Number of Still Births	6
Birth Rate per 1000 Inhabitants	10.4
Number of Deaths	293
Death Rate per 1,000 Inhabitants	13.7
Infant Deaths	10
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births.....	46
Number of Deaths of Infants under 1 month	7
Neo-natal Death Rate per 1,000 births	32
Smallpox Death Rate per 1,000 population	0.00
Diphtheria Death Rate per 1,000 population	0.04
Enteric Death Rate per 1,000 population	0.00
Measles Death Rate per 1,000 population	0.00
Scarlet Fever Death Rate per 1,000 population	0.00
Whooping Cough Death Rate per 1,000 population ...	0.04
Diarrhœa (under 2 years) per 1,000 births, death rate, etc	0.00
Influenza, per 1,000 population, death rate, etc.....	0.56
Acute Respiratory Disease, death rate, etc.	0.65
Cancer, death rate per 1,000 population	2.11
Tuberculosis death rate per 1,000 population :—	
(a) Pulmonary	0.56
(b) Non-Pulmonary	0.14
Violence (including Suicide) death rate 1,000 population	0.65

A.—Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area :—

Area in Acres	7124
Registrar-General's estimate of Resident population mid 1937	21320
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1937) according to Rate Books	6119
Rateable value	£216361
Sum represented by a penny rate	£837

Social Conditions.

It is to be noted that out of a population of 21,310 in Colwyn Bay, 5000 are insured persons. When one remembers that there are over 6000 inhabited houses and that in many of the houses two, three and even four persons are insured, it will be realised that there is a very large proportion of retired or semi-retired inhabitants.

The only outlets for labour are (a) for men, the building and quarrying trades and hotel service. (b) for girls, laundry work and domestic service.

It is unfortunate that many of the younger persons will not accept the domestic forms of employment. Indeed I am informed that it is necessary to import waiters, waitresses and maids in spite of the fact that during 1937 about 1000 persons were unemployed—the average throughout the year exceeded 500 (in other words, 20% of the insured population registered at the Unemployment Exchange during 1937). This denotes a very heavy burden on the town and is bound to react on the health of the inhabitants generally.

During the year a Training Camp for unemployed men was opened at Bettws-y-Coed. To this camp a number of Colwyn Bay youths have gone; much has been done for their health. They receive good food and have been trained for some of the forms of employment that do provide an outlet for labour.

This camp has much to commend it. It is not compulsory but is open to all unemployed men.

It will be obvious that Colwyn Bay is not an Industrial Town. Its chief reason for existence is its health giving properties. Protected as it is by hills on those sides from which prevailing winds blow, and having a shallow sea in front, it is blessed with a very mild climate—one which thousands of persons have found beneficial.

It cannot be too strongly stressed that the provision of health is our function and privilege. Colwyn Bay offers health, not only to its Burgesses but to all who will come as temporary residents. Its life and work is planned with this end in view.

Extracts from Vital Statistics.

		Total	Male	Female
Live Births	(a) Legitimate	211	105	106
	(b) Illegitimate ...	7	4	3
	(c) Total	218	109	109

Birth rate per 1000 estimated population total births—10.4

Still Births	6	2	4
Rate per 1000 total births—	26.8		

Deaths	193	126	167
Death rate per 1000 estimated population—	13.7		

Deaths from Puerperal Causes—

Headings 29 and 30 on Registrar General's Short List)

	Deaths.	Rate per 1000 total births
No. 29 Puerperal sepsis	0	0.0
No. 30 Other Puerperal causes...	1	4.4

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age.

All Infants per 1000 legitimate live births.....	45.88
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	47. 1
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	0

Deaths from

(a) Cancer (all ages)	45
(b) Measles (all ages)	0
(c) Whooping cough (all ages)	0
(d) Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	0

TOTAL DEATHS

Causes of Death in Colwyn Bay M.B., 1937

Causes of Death				M.	F.
1	Typhoid and paratyphoid Fevers			...	...
2	Measles			...	...
3	Scarlet Fever			...	...
4	Whooping Cough			...	...
5	Diphtheria			...	1
6	Influenza			4	8
7	Encephalitis lethargica			...	...
8	Cerebro-spinal Fever			...	...
9	Tuberculosis of respiratory system			6	6
10	Other tuberculous diseases			1	3
11	Syphilis			...	...
12	General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis			...	...
13	Cancer, malignant disease			20	25
14	Diabetes			3	...
15	Cerebral haemorrhage, etc.			6	13
16	Heart disease			24	40
17	Aneurysm			...	...
18	Other circulatory diseases			9	22
19	Bronchitis			...	3
20	Pneumonia (all forms)			8	3
21	Other respiratory diseases			1	...
22	Peptic ulcer			1	1
23	Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)			...	...
24	Appendicitis			1	...
25	Cirrhosis of liver			1	...
26	Other diseases of liver, etc.			1	4
27	Other digestive diseases			5	4
28	Acute and chronic nephritis			7	11
29	Puerperal Sepsis			...	...
30	Other puerperal causes			...	1
31	Congenital, debility, premature, birth, malformations etc.			1	5
32	Senility			...	2
33	Suicide			6	...
34	Other violence			6	2
35	Other defined diseases			15	12
36	Causes ill-defined or unknown			...	1
Special Causes (included in No. 35 above)				...	...
Small-pox				...	...
Poliomyelitis				...	...
Polioencephalitis				...	...
Deaths of		Total	...	4	6
Infants under		Legitimate	...	4	6
1 year		Illegitimate	...	...	...
Live Births		Total	...	109	109
		Legitimate	...	105	106
		Illegitimate	...	4	3
Still Births		Total	...	2	4
		Legitimate	...	2	4
		Illegitimate	...	...	...
Population				21,320	
General Register Office, Somerset House, London, W.C.2.					

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis)
of Mortality, Maternal Death-rates)
and Case-rates for certain In-
fectious Diseases in the year 1937)

(England and Wales, London,
(125 Great Towns and 148
(Smaller Towns.

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns)

	England and Wales	125 C'ty Boro's and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Adminis- trative County
Rates per 1,000 Population				
Births—				
Live	14. 9	14. 9	15. 3	13.03
Still	0.60	0.67	0.64	0.54
Deaths—				
All Causes	12. 4	12. 5	11. 9	12. 3
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever }	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Measles	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.01
Scarlet Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Whooping Cough ...	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.06
Diphtheria	0.07	0.08	0.05	0.05
Influenza	0.45	0.39	0.42	0.38
Violence	0.54	0.45	0.42	0.51
Notifications—				
Smallpox	0.00	—	0.00	—
Scarlet Fever	2.33	2.56	2.42	2.09
Diphtheria	1.49	1.81	1.38	1.93
Enteric Fever	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.05
Erysipelas	0.37	0.43	0.34	0.44
Pneumonia	1.36	1.58	1.20	1.18
Dates per 1,000 Live Births				
Deaths under 1 year of age .....	.58	.62	.55	.60
Deaths fr'm Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age }	5. 8	7. 8	3. 2	12. 0
Maternal Mortality—				
Puerperal Sepsis ...	0.97	Not available		
Others	2.26			
Total	3.23			
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still)				
Maternal Mortality—				
Puerperal Sepsis ...	0.94	Not available		
Others	2.17			
Total	3.11			
Notifications—				
Puerperal Fever }	13.93	17.59	11.52	(4.15
Puerperal Pyrexia }				(14.34

Population.

The Registrar-General has estimated that the number of residents in the Borough area in mid 1937 was 21,320. This figure is calculated in a very complex manner. It does not take into consideration the visitors who frequent the town so that it understates the responsibilities of the Health Committee, and who, though very welcome, are in some respects a liability.

It does take into consideration new houses erected, new names on the Electors' Roll, and the difference between births and deaths registered. For many years, deaths have exceeded births. Last year this loss of population amounted to the difference between 293 deaths and 218 births—75.

This year an Areal Comparability Factor has been supplied which reflects the age of the population. It must be obvious that more deaths will occur in a company of octogenarians than amongst a company of young people; so it must be accepted that more deaths will occur in a town where the average age is higher than the average. In Colwyn Bay, the age is high and from the Census figures, the Registrar has estimated that we must multiply our crude death rate by 0.79 to make our statistics comparable with that of England and Wales. In other words, if the inhabitants of Colwyn Bay lived in an average town, instead of there having been 293 deaths in 1937 about 370 would have died. Here we have an estimate of Colwyn Bay's merit as a Health Resort, and as a residence for those whose health has been undermined by the hurry and bustle of city life. The Crude Death Rate is 13.7 per 1000 population; after applying the factor 0.79, it becomes 10.8. The figure with which this is to be compared is 12.4 for England and Wales. Thus the factor serves to prove that Colwyn Bay's population is comparatively aged and that Colwyn Bay is a very healthy town—prolonging life and health very considerably.

Deaths.

There has not been any marked variation from normal in the causes of death during the year. The death-rate increased slightly from the low figure in 1936 of 13.3 per 1000, to 13.7 per 1000. The corrected death rate for 1937 is 10.8 per 1000.

As might be expected, the chief causes of death were those associated with old age—heart and circulatory diseases, and cancer. The small increase in the death-rate was due to increases in the incidence of influenza, tuberculosis, digestive diseases, nephritis and of suicide.

There was one death associated with pregnancy and as the total number of births was only 224 the maternal mortality rate is very high for 1937—being 4.4 per 1000 births as against a national figure of 3.11. Last year there were no maternal deaths.

The Infant Mortality rate has kept low, being 46 per 1000 births—as against 45 last year. There were 10 infant deaths. Of these 7 children failed to live one month and died of causes associated with child-birth. As 6 children were still-born, it would seem that of 224 pregnancies 13 or 5.8% were due to ante-natal or obstetrical weaknesses.

Only 3 children between the ages of 1 and 5 years died during 1937.

Services

(a) Laboratory Facilities

1 Throat swabs continue to be examined at the Health Department. Any Practitioner may deliver a swab at the Health Department by day or to the caretaker by night, when the germs will be cultured and, as soon as a reasonable growth has developed, reported on. During 1937, 402 throat swabs were examined; of these 55 proved to be infected with the *Bacillus of Diphtheria*. In addition 11 vaginal smears from the Ante-Natal Clinic were examined; 4 of them contained gonococci.

2 Specimens of material taken from persons suspected of suffering from a venereal disease should be sent to Chester Royal Infirmary where they are examined at the cost of the County Council.

3 Sputum and other specimens taken from persons suspected of suffering from Tuberculosis should be posted to the Welsh National Memorial Offices at Cardiff,

4 Blood, stools, etc. to be examined for typhoid are examined at Chester Royal Infirmary for the Borough Council.

5 Milk is examined for bacteria content and for Tuberculosis at the Ministry of Agriculture Laboratory, Bangor.

6 Water is examined quarterly—samples being sent from the Health Department to the Public Analyst, Chester.

(b) Ambulance Facilities

1 General Cases and Accidents

The Colwyn Bay and District Voluntary Motor Ambulance Corps undertakes all Ambulance work other than the removal of infectious diseases. The following statement has been supplied me by the Chief Officer, Mr. F. T. Jones. It gives a summary of the work done and shows that there is much asked of the Corps. This work is well done and is adequate for the needs of the Town.

The Ambulance may be called at any time of the night or day by telephoning one of the following :—

F. T. JONES (Chief Officer), Abergele Rd., Old Colwyn Phone 5646.
C. DEANE (1st Officer), 15 Kensington Avenue, Old Colwyn Phone 5207
W. INSKEEP (2nd Officer) 57 Grove Park, Colwyn Bay. Phone 2346.
G. ELLIS (3rd Officer), Dorneth, Minydon Av, Old Colwyn Phone 5240
A. LOMAX (Financial Officer), Glenart, Church Drive, Rhos-on-Sea. Phone 4378.

During 1937-8, the following work was done by the Ambulance :—

Cases attended :—

Fatal Accidents	7
Other Accidents	69
Removed to Hospital	122
Removed to Nursing Homes	49
Transferred from one home to another.....	25
Cases attended outside the Borough.....	52

Number of hours during which the Ambulance was in use during the year	560
Number of man hours given to Ambulance Service during the year	2240
Number of miles run	6625

2 Infectious diseases are removed by the Town Ambulance which is garaged at the Isolation Hospital. This Ambulance may also be used to remove clothing, bedding, etc., to the Isolation Hospital for steam disinfection.

Nursing in the Home.

The District Nursing Associations of Colwyn Bay, Old Colwyn and Llysfaen provide trained nurses who work under the Medical men of the district. They are prepared to carry out any nursing service (except those required for infectious cases) that may be ordered by a doctor.

Residents are invited to become members of the Nursing Association, and so be entitled to specially low fees for treatment. To non-members, a fee of one shilling is charged.

Applications for membership may be made to the following :—

1. COLWYN BAY—Queen's Nurses, 6 Woodhill Road, Colwyn Bay Tel. 2014.
2. OLD COLWYN—District Nurse, Horndon, Station Road, Tel. 5614.
3. LLYSFAEN—Arfryn, Llysfaen. Tel. Llanddulas 43.

Each Association also employs a Midwife who undertakes midwifery and maternity work. In this work, the midwives are under the supervision of the County Council. For it they receive grants from the Borough Council. This service is adequate for the needs of the district.

There are 25 midwives practising in the area—4 being engaged by local Nursing Associations.

The Council employs a "Home Help" to attend at the homes of women during confinement or on the women if they are in need of a rest during pregnancy. She is a full-time officer and is resident at the Clinic. During 1937, she attended at 11 homes.

Clinics.

All Clinics are being concentrated under one roof. For twelve years, Plas Tirion has served well, but during 1938 this building will be converted into a Maternity Home and a building nearby will be converted into a modern clinic. Plans have now been accepted by the Ministry of Health, etc. There will be commodious rooms for Child-welfare, Dental treatment, Tonsil and Adenoid Operative treatment, Orthopædic treatment, etc., as well as a large room for waiting and for physical training. The Health Visitor and the "Home Help" who is also caretaker of the Clinic, will reside in this building.

Clinics.—

1. Plas Tirion

Tuesdays* : Child Welfare Centres at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.
Toddlers are also seen at this Clinic.

Thursdays : Orthopædic Centre at 11 a.m. on alternate weeks.

Obstetrical Consultant's Clinic (by appointment on every 4th Thursday at 11 a.m.

Three or four times a year Tonsil & Adenoid operations are performed on Thursdays children being detained until Friday mornings.

Fridays * : Ante-Natal Clinics at 2 p.m. on 2nd and 4th Friday of each month.

*Attended by Medical Officer of Health.

2. The Llysfaen Child Welfare Centre meets on the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month at 2 p.m. in the Church Rooms. This is an alteration. Until recently the Clinic met on alternate Thursdays but this had to be altered to suit the Ante-Natal Clinics.

In addition the Local Education Authority use the premises as follows :—

- (a) Each day at noon, the School Nurse treats minor ailments of school children.

(b) Alternate Thursdays at 11 a.m. the Orthopaedic Clinic meets.

(c) Dental treatment is given periodically.

(d) Tonsil and Adenoids enucleation is done periodically.

3. There are no Day Nurseries in the Area.

4. Tuberculosis work is done at the Lecture Hall, Sea View Road, Colwyn Bay, on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month at 11 a.m. This work is done under the auspices of the King Edward VII Welsh National Memorial Association.

5. Venereal Disease—The County Council is responsible for the treatment of Venereal Diseases, and have made arrangements for treatment of cases as follows :—

Chester Royal Infirmary—

(Both sexes treated simultaneously).

Monday	5—7 p.m.
Wednesday	5—7 p.m.
Thursday	1—3 p.m.
Saturday	12—2 p.m.

Bangor Infirmary—

Tuesday (Male)	2 p.m.
Friday (Female)	2 p.m.

Hospitals.

The Isolation Hospital admitted 107 cases of infectious disease during 1937. Details of these admissions will be found on a later page. No change has been made in the administration of the Hospital. All cases are admitted on the order of the Medical Officer of Health who has to be satisfied that the case is suitable for admission and that it is expedient to admit it. Many factors are taken into consideration before refusing to admit or before agreeing to an infectious person being nursed at home—e.g. type of house, school-children in the home, employment of father, etc., severity of case.

The six cubicles into which one ward was divided some years ago makes isolation much more effective; fresh cases are not now put alongside convalescent cases. Indeed as far as is possible, cases, even of the same disease, and at the same stage of illness, are not allowed near each other. This probably accounts for the very happy absence of complications amongst scarlet fever and diphtheria patients at Bron-y-nant.

Colwyn Bay and West Denbighshire Hospital.

This hospital is well built and equipped. It contains 40 beds and cots and 5 private wards. Two side-rooms are set aside for maternity beds. During 1937, 843 patients were treated; the average length of stay was 19 days and the average number of beds occupied daily was 42. The fact that the average number of occupants so nearly equals the official capacity, indicates how much the Hospital is in demand. At one time there were 52 in-patients. Of these patients 597 were Colwyn Bay residents. 20 women were admitted at the Borough Council's request for confinement and eight other (abnormal) confinements were treated. 86 children under 5 years of age (excluding babies born) were admitted and treated. There is no out-patient department.

Maternity and Child-Welfare.

In the Autumn of 1937, a brochure entitled "Health Services in Colwyn Bay" was issued to every householder in the Borough. The following items dealing with the Maternity and Child Welfare are extracted from it.

1.—For Mothers.

Ante-Natal Clinics are held at Plas Tirion on the second and last Fridays of each month at 2 p.m. Here arrangements are made for :

- (a) Provision of free food and drugs to those who need them.
- (b) Provision of "Home Help" to look after the woman's home during illness or confinement.
- (c) Securing admission to Hospital for confinement. The charge for this depends on the family income, varying from £3 3. 0. per week to free treatment.

- (d) Securing dental treatment — including the provision of dentures. The charge for this varies with the income from cost price to free.
- (e) Securing expert advice on visual defects during pregnancy and providing such treatment as is advised.
- (f) Securing specialist advice at a Consultant Clinic during pregnancy and specialist treatment, before, during or after confinement. Charge varies with the family income.
- (g) Securing physical fitness by inviting mothers to attend at a physical exercise class.

2. For Infants and Toddlers—

A. At the Clinics, arrangements are made for :—

- 1 Examining and weighing every child, weekly.
2. Advising as to food, clothing and hygiene.
3. Immunising against Diphtheria.
4. Treating defects in vision.
5. Treating defects in walking or other deformities.
6. Providing milk, cod-liver oil, etc., free to those in need.
7. Treating minor ailments (by appointment).

B. The Health Visitor visits every infant and toddler at regular intervals in its own home to advise and help.

1 Clinics.

The Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics have again increased in popularity. 117 mothers attended 389 times. Most of these women were seen after confinement when they attended with their babies; they were then questioned as to their health, etc. 9 actually came to the 'Ante-Natal Clinic' for a post-natal examination. This number is not satisfactory. Every woman should be examined 6-8 weeks after confinement. Propaganda to secure that end is being undertaken. The 9 may be considered the van-guard. 45.1% of the women confined in the Borough attended at the Ante-Natal Centres—an increase from 41% in 1936. 3.8% returned—not "where are the nine?" but "there are nine, where are the others?"

The custom in past years has been for women to attend at the Routine Clinic and be referred to the Consultant Clinic. In April, 1938, Mr. R. Owen Jones, F.R.C.S., took over the Consultant work. He attends every fourth Thursday at Plas Tirion at 11 a.m. He will see any woman referred to him from the Routine Clinic or by a Medical Practitioner. He will also be available to consult with any Practitioner in need of Specialist assistance.

2. Home Help.

Owing to the fact that 28 women were admitted to the West Denbighshire Hospital for confinement, the "Home Help" has not been in so great demand as might be expected. She was in attendance on 9 women during their confinements and twice she went "out" to secure that a woman, in ill-health, had a rest prior to confinement.

3. Hospital Beds.

The number of applicants for admission to Hospital for confinement has doubled during the year. Actually 28 women were admitted—20 being under the Borough Council scheme. The Matron of the Hospital has been most helpful in the working of the scheme and it is largely due to her services that so large a number were able to secure admission.

The need for a Maternity Home is very urgent. As stated above, the West Denbighshire Hospital admitted 28 women for confinement but more than double this number applied for admission. Plans for the New Maternity Home have now been approved by the Ministry of Health and it is expected to be in use by the end of 1938.

4. Dental Treatment.

Dental treatment was provided for 12 mothers. This service is developing satisfactorily; but it must be emphasised that the Council does not provide free or cheap dental treatment for any woman who cares to apply. Dental treatment is given to remove possible sources of infection during pregnancy, and so to reduce risks of sepsis during and immediately after labour. Where sepsis does not exist, treatment will not be provided.

5. **Nutrition.**

The Council does not provide hot meals. Dried milk, milk containing additional vitamins and iron; tablets containing iron, and tablets containing calcium are provided free.

6. Social events and classes for young mothers have been held monthly and have an average attendance of about 30.

7. **Physical Training Classes.**

The classes run by Miss Janet Hall, C.S.M.M.G., B.P.T.C. have been most enthusiastically attended and have had to be limited on account of space. Remedial exercises, postural exercises, etc., have been taught. This class which meets weekly on Mondays at 8 p.m. is one of the most satisfactory developments in recent years. The benefit to mothers and their children is very evident. Miss Hall must receive grateful thanks for this beneficent work done so willingly and freely.

8. **Post Partum Treatment.**

Mothers on coming to the Clinics with young babies are invited to present themselves for gynæcological examination when baby is 6—8 weeks old. The response varies. At present most women are willing to discuss their health and ask questions about post pregnancy physiology but unless they feel that there is a gynæcological abnormality, they are shy at attending for special examination. 9 women did attend.

9. The Health Visitor holds meetings of mothers to demonstrate correct methods of handling, feeding, etc. babies. Systematic visiting and private tuition in the home is, however, more effective as young mothers are not willing to ask questions at a "meeting."

There is no co-operation between the Maternity Service and the Schools. This is unfortunate. I feel that girls 12—15 might wisely be trained in mother-craft and that the Health Visitor, the Clinics and the Medical Officer attending them would be of great help in this.

Infants and Children.

1. Clinics—The Welfare Centres meet—

(a) At Plas Tirion—Tuesdays 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

(b) At Church Room, Llysfaen—1st and 3rd Fridays at 2 p.m.

Attendances at the Clinics during the last 5 years have been :—

Enrolled	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
----------	------	------	------	------	------

Infants and Toddlers

Under 1 year.....	129	129	168	189	219
Over 1 year ...	147	182	183	93	201

Mothers

Ante-Natal ...	25	42	89	90	108
Post-Natal	not recorded		10	6	9

Total Attendances

Infants	2060	1529	2712	2424	2382
Toddlers	1812	2332	2233	2101	2055
Ante-Natal Mothers	60	122	173	222	368
Post Natal Mothers—	—				21
Total	3932	3983	5118	4747	4826

The numbers attending the Clinics amounted to 4826 during 1937, These attendances were made up by 357 person as follows :—

Children attending for the first time	162
Children on register prior to 1937	285
Mothers	117

The Clinics were opened as follows :—

Child Welfare Centres (a) at Colwyn Bay	98
(b) at Llysfaen	23
Ante-Natal Clinics (a) Routine	18
(b) Consultant	12

2. Orthopædic Clinic.

The Orthopædic work is done by the "Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopædic Hospital," Oswestry. The scheme is a joint one with the Denbigh County Council Education Committee and the Adult After Care Committee. This ensures continuity of treatment of cases. Nurses attend fortnightly on Thursdays to adjust boots, irons and plasters, while a Specialist Surgeon attends three times a year. Children needing operation or indoor treatment are taken to Oswestry where treatment is given at the Borough Council's expense.

Parents of children under 5 years of age must, before starting treatment, be enrolled at the Town Hall, when they are informed whether any repayment of fees will be required.

The following information has been given me by the Secretary-Superintendent of the Orthopædic Clinic during 1937

	Total Treated	Cured	Refused Treatment	On Books 31-12-37
Congenital Deformities	2	—	—	2
Flat Foot	2	—	1	1
Knock Knees	3	—	—	3
Rickets	2	1	1	—
Others	2	—	1	1
	—	—	—	—
	11	1	3	7
	—	—	—	—

The total number of patients treated was 11. Of the 7 shown "on the books 31. 12. 37" one attained school age during 1937. This case is shown as discharged in the following summary but is in fact continuing treatment at the same Clinic under the School Medical Service.

On books, 1. 1. 37	9
Admitted during 1937	2
Number treated during 1937.....	11
Discharged during 1937	5
On books 31. 12. 37	6
Attendances during 1937	58

3. Immunization against diphtheria has again been offered free to children attending the Clinics. There is no charge to

parents. The response has been disappointing—only 35 children were immunized. During 1938 all school children will be offered immunization.

4. **Food.**

Dried milk with or without additional iron, Cod Liver Oil and Malt, Ferrous Sulphate Pills and Ostocalcium Tablets are provided at cost price or free to those in need (according to a fixed scale) as follows :—

	Given Free	Sold at Cost Price
Dried Milk	894 packets	2974
Dried Milk containing iron	395	31
Malt and Cod Liver Oil	43	138
Ostocalcium Tablets	860	140
Iron Sulphate	1200	800

5. **Visual Defects.**

During the year the Council agreed to be responsible for the treatment of expectant mothers whose vision is interfered with by pregnancy—e.g, in cases of albuminuria and also to secure treatment for children suffering from squint, etc.

These mothers and children are now sent to Mr. Shuttleworth, the Ophthalmic Surgeon, by the Medical Officer of Health. Glasses, if prescribed, are provided free where the family income is below the Council's scale. One woman and one child were sent during 1937.

Health Visitor.

Miss Davies has reported to me that all infants born in Colwyn Bay during 1937 were visited at least once. Subsequent visits were paid as was deemed desirable. During the year it has been made very obvious that her work is appreciated. She usually visits about three weeks after the baby is born but it is interesting to notice that she is frequently notified by post-card from the mothers early in the third week, that they wish her to visit. Visits are very valuable. Indeed, I feel that they are more valuable than attendances at the Clinic because more time can be given to the individual and her difficulties met much more effectively.

Number of visits paid by the Health Visitor :—

1. To expectants mothers—First visits	70
Total visits	208
2. To children under 1 year of age	
First visits	227
Total visits	1688
3. To children between the ages of 1 and 5	
Total visits	2213

Thus in all, the Health Visitor paid 4109 visits for the above purposes. In addition, Miss Davies makes me a report on all Infant Deaths and Stillbirths.

Ophthalmic Neonatorum.

Three children were notified to me as suffering from Ophthalmia Neonatorum during the year. All were treated at home and visited frequently by the Health Visitor. In no case was there permanent damage to an eye.

Infant Life Protection.

All boarded out children were visited quarterly during 1937, and all found to be satisfactorily cared for. There were 16 children on the register, 10 being inmates of boarding schools.

Sanitary Circumstances in the Area.

1. The water supply of the district has been under review during 1937, and alterations to secure a more uniform pressure. An effort has been made to reduce the consumption in business premises. I hope this craze for economy in the use of water will not be carried too far. I understand that there is no probability of shortage. Indeed there was never less than about 300 days supply in Lake Cowlyd. Actually a saving of about 23 million gallons was made in 1937. In all we used about 445 million gallons or about 58 gallons per resident per day.

The following statement was supplied me by the Engineer to the Cowlyd Water Board.

The following are the rainfall returns for each month at Cowlyd for 1937 :—

January	10.05	inches
February	12.59	"
March	9.15	"
April	8.80	"
May	2.00	"
June	3.95	"
July	2.79	"
August	2.70	"
September	4.90	"
October	5.39	"
November	2.82	"
December	8.11	"
	<hr/>	
	73.25	"
	<hr/>	

The rainfall for the year viz. 73.25 inches was 14.70 inches below the average for the previous 10 years.

The quantity of water delivered into your district during 1937 was as follows :—

January	35,625,200	gallons
February	32,771,200	"
March	37,091,500	"
April	36,228,000	"
May	37,615,400	"
June	37,548,000	"
July	41,974,000	"
August	42,752,100	"
September	38,574,000	"
October	35,609,700	"
November	34,788,000	"
December	34,596,000	"
	<hr/>	
Total	445,173,100	"
	<hr/>	

The purity of the water has been maintained.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd) CHAS. F. FARRINGTON.

Samples of water from various parts of the town are taken by the Sanitary Inspector on my behalf every quarter. The water has always been reported to be satisfactory. The following is the most recent bacteriological report :—

Report of water taken 16th May, 1938—

No. of organisms grown on Agar in 3 days at 20° c -8 per 1cc

No. of organisms grown on Agar in 48 hrs. at 37° c - 1 per 1cc

B. Coli present in 100 c.c.

B. Coli absent in 50 c.c.

This sample is satisfactory.

A report on a sample taken on the 21st January, 1938, reads as follows :—

Marked—House tap direct from main after running 10 minutes
Public supply.

In parts per 100,000 of water :—

Total Solid matter in solution.....	3.0
Nitrogen in Nitrates and Nitrites.....	Nil
Chlorine in Chlorides	0.9
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 4 hours at 80 degrees F.....	0.112
Free and Saline Ammonia	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0015
Lead, Copper, Zinc	Nil
Microscopical examination of the Sediment	Nil

Judged by the above analysis this water is of very good quality, it is suitable in all respects for drinking and domestic use.

(Signed) HAROLD LOWE, M.Sc., F.I.C.

There has not been any essential change in the water distribution in the district but the Ministry of Health has now sanctioned the spending of money on the extension of the Llysfaen Reservoirs. This will not make any difference to the present consumers but it will give security to the supply. During recent years, the supply has only been maintained with difficulty and a breakdown of machinery might have been

unpleasant. Within the next few months work will have begun there.

Drainage and Sewerage.

There have been two fairly extensive alterations in the drainage system during 1937; one was in Queens Drive and the other in Bay View Road, Sea View Road and Station Square. Both are expected to cope with surface water and will be of great benefit in times of heavy rain.

The Llysfaen area still is without a sewerage system. With the considerable building scheme proceeding there, I feel that an adequate water-carriage system is becoming an urgent necessity. No nuisance has so far arisen and the new houses have modern and apparently efficient filtration and septic tanks; but careful supervision will be necessary and if more dwellings are to be erected a sewer should be made a pre-requisite.

Rivers and Streams.

These are kept under supervision. As the hinterland has no proper sewerage and surface water from the town itself is run into them, it will be readily understood that none of them have water fit to drink. Increasing building at unsewered parts of the town makes the problem of keeping these streams inoffensive ever more difficult. Extension of the sewers will in time ease this task.

It has been necessary to erect notices prohibiting the collection of water-cress from certain streams in the district. These streams were known to be polluted.

Closet Accommodation.

No change has to be reported. Llysfaen is still largely provided with pail closets although new houses have a water carriage system draining to cesspools. No danger to health has arisen during the year either from the cesspools or the pails.

Sanitary Inspection of the District.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

TABLE 1.

Complaints received and attended to	350
No. of Premises inspected	327
" " Nuisances found	321
" " Houses in which Nuisances were found	280
" " Nuisances abated	321
" " Nuisances not abated but work in hand.....	0
" " Visits under the Housing Acts	41
" " Drains and Fittings tested with colour, smell or smoke machine	90
" " Revisits to Drains, inspecting work in progress and on completion	172
" " Revisits on account of Nuisances, inspecting work	1117
" " Visits to Camps	0
" " Preliminary Notices served for Nuisances	280
" " Formal Notices and Orders served for Nuisances	132
" " Non-compliance Letters served	8
" " Prosecutions or work carried out for non- compliance of Nuisances by Local Authority...	0
" " Cases of infectious diseases investigated.....	114
" " Revisits to premises for Infectious Diseases	68
" " Rooms fumigated after Infectious Diseases.....	150
" " Houses visited for Disinfection	124
" " Houses disinfected for verminous condition	1
" " Articles disinfected by steam disinfector.....	5587
" " Mattresses etc., destroyed by request of owners...	86
" " Visits to Bakehouses and Workplaces, inspecting premises	428
" " Visits to Factories	183
" " Visits to Workshops	308
" " Visits to Cowsheds	142
" " Visits to Dairies and Milkshops	658
" " Milk samples taken for Tuberculosis Bacilli.....	0

No. of Accredited Milk samples taken	2
„ „ Pasteurised Milk samples taken	1
„ „ Tuberculin Tested Milk	1
„ „ Visits to Ice Cream Shops	98
„ „ Offensive Trades, including Fried Fish Shops.....	400
„ „ Visits to Works under the Department.....	413
„ „ Visits to Sanitary Conveniences of Schools.....	0
„ „ Visits to Kitchens of Restaurants	261
„ „ Visits for other causes.....	221
„ „ Inspections made to Dance Halls, Cinemas and other places of Entertainment	46
„ „ Visits house to house for Sanitary Conveniences	1946

Table 11.

SANITARY DEFECTS.

No. of Stopped Drains	{ 42
„ „ Defective Drains	
„ „ Defective dishng to gullies	11
„ „ Want of, or insufficient drainage and W.C. accommodation	8
„ „ Defective Soil Pipes	0
„ „ Defective W.C. Cisterns and fittings	15
„ „ Broken and unsuitable W.C. pedestals and pans...	4
„ „ Dirty conditions of houses and outhouses	2
„ „ Want of limewashing	14
„ „ Broken Inspection Chamber Covers	6
„ „ Defective Sink and Waste Pipes	13
„ „ Burst Water Pipes	3
„ „ Defective Roofs—Houses and Outbuildings.....	18
„ „ Defective Floors in rooms	10
„ „ Defective Windows	6
„ „ Defective Paving of Yards and Outhouses	29
„ „ Defective Eaves and Downspouting	11
„ „ Other Nuisances (outside)	20

„ „ Keeping of Fowls so as to be a nuisance.....	0
„ „ General Dilapidations	41
„ „ Accumulations—Manure and other refuse	14
„ „ Dilapidated Ashbins	177
„ „ Defective Plastering of walls and ceilings	11
„ „ Vans, Camps on land so as to be a nuisance	0
„ „ Damp conditions in Houses	12
„ „ Overcrowding of Houses	0
„ „ Want of grids to gullies	4
„ „ Defective Urinals	0

Table III.

During the year the following visits have been made to Slaughter Houses and other food premises—

No. of Visits and Re-visits to Abattoir	217
„ „ Visits to Butchers' Shops	1346
„ „ Visits to Fish Shops	301
„ „ Visits to Food Shops	0
„ „ Quarters of Beef inspected	5234
„ „ Sheep and Lambs inspected	23157
„ „ Pigs inspected	1630
„ „ Calves inspected	641
„ „ Boxes of Fish inspected	655
and a large quantity of other food stuffs.	

Meat and other Food Stuff's surrendered and destroyed being unfit for human consumption.

786 lbs. of Beef.
 35 lbs. of Mutton.
 622½ lbs. of Livers.
 12 lbs. of Pork.
 32½ lbs. of Veal.
 3 sets of Offals.
 11 lbs. Pressed Beef.
 3 tins Tinned Ham.
 51 tins Fruit.

House and Trade Refuse Collection.

The quantity of House and Trade Refuse collected for the period of this Report, 1st January, 1937, to 31st December 1937, is as follows :—

6158 loads weighing 8097 tons 17cwts.

308 loads not weighed, also

575 tumbler loads of night soil.

888 loads by private persons not weighed.

1. Total refuse collected (in tons).....	8344
Total refuse disposed (in tons)	8600
2. Population : Midsummer, 1935	21320
Floating Population	60000
3. Area	7124
4. Weight in cwts. per 1000 of population per day 22.1 cwts.	
5. Number of houses or premises	6119
6. Rateable Value	£216,361
7. Product of 1d. Rate	£837
8. Total Rates in the £	15/6

The following table of costings which has to be submitted to the Ministry is for the period of 1st April, 1936 to 31st March, 1937.

TABLE B
Borough of Colwyn Bay
CLEANSING SERVICES

State of Costs for the year ended 31st March, 1937
House and Trade Refuse

PARTICULARS	Revenue Account		1—Collection including or excluding depreciation and loan charges		2—Disposal including or excluding depreciation and loan charges		Total including or excluding depreciation and loan charges	
	Included	Excluded	Included	Excluded	Included	Excluded	Included	Excluded
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1. Gross Expenditure	4610	4317	1171	1005	5781	5322		
2. Gross Income	104	104	39	39	143	143		
3. Net Cost	4505	4213	1132	966	5638	5179		
(see Notes (a), (b) & (c))								
	s	d	s	d	s	d	s	d
Unit Costs								
4. Gross Expenditure, per ton	11	0.6	2	8.68	13	9.28	12	8.17
5. Gross Income per ton	3	3	1.08	1.08	4.08	4.08		
6. Net cost per ton	10	9.6	2	7.6	13	5.20	12	4.09
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
7. Net cost per 1000 population:	217.9	203.7	54.7	46.7	272.6	250.4		
9. Net cost per 1000 houses or premises from which refuse is collected.....	744	697.7	187.4	160	931.4	857.7		

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES INCLUDING BAKEHOUSES

The following tables give details of the work done in connection with these places—

Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors, 1937.

Premises	Inspections	Number of	
		Notices Written	Prosecuted Occupiers
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	183	1	Nil
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	308	6	Nil
Workplaces (including Bake- houses other than Out- workers' Premises)	428	14	Nil
Total	919	21	Nil

Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars	Number of Defects			Number of Offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remi- died	Ref'd to H.M. In- spectors	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—				
Want of Cleanliness	18	18	Nil	Nil
Want of Ventilation	1	1	Nil	Nil
Want of Drainage of Floors	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other Nuisances	1	1	Nil	Nil

Sanitary Accommodation :

Insufficient	1	1	Nil	Nil
Unsuitable or defective.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Not separate for Sexes ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Offences under the Factory
and Workshops Acts—

Illegal Occupation of under- ground bakehouse (s.101)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other Offences	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	21	21	Nil	Nil

The following table gives the various number of occupations.

Number of Workshops on Register at the end of the year 1937.

Bakers and Confectioners	46
Dressmakers and Milliners	29
Coachbuilders	5
Tailors	18
Bootmakers and Repairers	2/
Laundries	5
Joiners and Cabinet Makers	22
Smiths and Shoeing Forgers	6
Plumbers and Painters	33
Saddlers	2
Tinsmiths	5
Bottling Stores	6
Hairdressing Saloons	29
Watchmakers and Jewellers	10
Cycle and Motor Workshop	27
Printing Works	3
Upholsterers	12
Photographers	16
Stone Masons	3
Picture Framers	4
Firelighter Makers	1
Electricians	17
Tripe Dresser	1
Total	327

Shops.

No action has been taken during 1937 under the Shops Act, 1934. A survey of the shops is contemplated in the near future.

Smoke Abatement.

There is no need to take action under this head. The only chimneys in the town belong to the Laundries, and their owners are alive to the value of efficient combustion.

There has been some agitation to secure the prosecution of those who burn garden refuse in their gardens. It must be repeated that the Borough Council cannot stop this practice. It may be annoying, and thoughtless citizens at times are a nuisance in this respect—but not a Public Health Nuisance. No doubt a good fire with green hedge clippings when the wind is from the right direction will enable one to “get his own back” on an unsociable neighbour, but black smuts do not cement friendships. I would be glad if the practice of burning refuse carelessly were to cease.

Swimming Pools.

The Rhos Swimming Pool is well managed, and its water always maintained at a high standard of purity.

Eradication of Bed-Bugs.

One family was removed from a house that was being vountarily demolished. The furniture was found to be heavily infested with vermin so was removed to a shed by the Sanitary Inspector and thoroughly disinfested (much of it was destroyed) before being delivered to the new Council house. The methods employed for what remained were

1. Blow lamp for solid furniture.
2. Steam disinfection for bedding, etc.

The method seems to have been effective and supervision has been maintained.

In the only other case, a private firm was brought down and disinfestation was by the cyanide method—with very satisfactory results.

Schools.

These have been maintained in a satisfactory condition and no school closures for infectious disease have been necessary.

Refuse Collection.

This work was successfully carried out without serious disturbance in spite of very great difficulty. In October, the garage was completely destroyed by fire, and all the vehicles damaged—two irreparably. The fire broke out in the early morning. Prompt action by Mr. Hunt and Mr. Evans secured that the normal work of the Department was proceeding by means of hired lorries within two hours of the usual starting time. New vehicles had to be tested and ordered. They have now been delivered. One of these is a large rear-loading vehicle. This is a new type in Colwyn Bay. It should be much cleaner and should look more like a "Health" department wagon. It is essential that dustless collection should be secured.

Tipping at Bryn Euryn quarry has been begun. It is hoped to make a good children's playground here—where a rough stony quarry floor previously existed. Shortage of soil for covering is delaying work here.

Trade Refuse collection has been considered as, in accordance with the 1936 Public Health Act, this service must be charged for. The Council appreciated that tradesmen do pay heavy rates and so attempted to make the extra charge for refuse collection as light as possible. One vehicle with its team of men is entirely devoted to the trade refuse round. The charges for the next few months will be 3d. per bin collected, and 1d. per bin delivered by the owner at the tip. These figures do not cover the cost of the services but they will be re-considered once the scheme has been in operation for some time.

I give herewith a statement on the cost of the service. It shows that there has again been a reduction in the cost per ton of refuse collected. This is remarkable when the difficulties and extra costs imposed by the fire are considered, and it denotes a very splendid effort on the part of the foreman, Mr. J. Evans, and the men. The men are interested in their

work, they do not hesitate to put forth extra effort when occasion demands and they strive to do the work in a manner that is creditable to them and to the town.

I would like to see the men all provided with a distinctive dust proof coat and cap.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Year ended 31st March, 1938.

	Collection.	Disposal
	£	£
Wages	2161	641
Haulage	2162	172
Other Expenses	447	171
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	4770	984
Loan Charges		168
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	4770	1152
Less Income	83	55
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£4687	£1097
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£5784	
	1937-38	1936-37
Refuse collection	9021 tons	8344 tons
Cost per ton	10/4.69	10/9.6
Refuse Disposal	9222 tons	8600 tons
Cost per ton	2/4.54	2/7.6
Total cost per ton, Collection and Disposal	12/9.23	13/5.2
Number of Premises from which refuse was collected	6974	
Cost per 1,000 Premises—		
Collection	£672.07	
Disposal	£157.3	
	<hr/>	
	£829.37	
	<hr/>	

Housing.

Only one house was condemned during 1937. It will be demolished during 1938, when a house has been provided, it is now nearing completion.

138 houses were built by private enterprise during the year—but none by the Council.

I am concerned about houses built for single families that are now being used by several families. There are 40 of these now known to me and the number is increasing. Many of the houses are large and well-built. They could easily be made into satisfactory flats but certain essential alterations should be made. The Health Committee has decided once more to consider the making of Bye-laws to govern "Houses let in lodgings." With such bye-laws, the control of these will be considerably eased.

The following table shows the work recorded as having been done towards securing healthy homes.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year—

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	327
		Number of inspections made for the purpose	387
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	Nil
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	Nil
(3)		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil
(4)		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	41

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notice.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 189

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year

(A) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs Nil

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice... Nil

(a) By Owners Nil

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners... Nil

(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 132

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice—

(a) By Owners

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners... .

(C) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made..... 1

(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders Nil

Houses scheduled demolished by owners..... Nil

(1)

Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936—

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | Nil |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or rooms having been rendered fit | Nil |
| No. of Houses built by Private Enterprise | 138 |
| No. of Houses built by the Borough Council | Nil |
-

HOUSING ACT, 1935—Overcrowding.

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (a)—(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year | 3 |
| (2) Number of families dwelling therein | 3 |
| (3) Number of persons dwelling therein | 22½ |
| (b)—— Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year | Nil |
| (c)—(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year (by themselves) | Nil |
| (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases | Nil |
| (d)—— Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding | Nil |
| (e)—— Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report | Nil |

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

a Milk Supply.

All farms were visited during the year—some many times and others only twice. Two routine methodical visitations were undertaken by the Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector together. In all 142 visits were paid.

Dairies were visited by the Sanitary Inspector and occasionally by the Medical Officer with the Sanitary Inspector. 658 visits were paid.

Four samples of milk were sent to the Agricultural College, Bangor, to be tested for bacterial contents. The County Council is the Authority which issues licences to producers of Designated Milk. The Milk and Dairies Order 1926 has not proved difficult to administer. Most farmers are alive to its demands and strive to comply with these. The result is that on the whole, good, clean milk is produced

b Meat and Other Foods.

1. Meat—There is no private slaughter house in the Borough, and most meat is prepared at the Abattoir. Of the rest, much is imported from reputable markets—e.g. Birkenhead. A little is brought in from neighbouring villages and farms. This is inspected in the shops by the Sanitary Inspector. Food is not sold from stalls and very little from vehicles. The latter are almost entirely owned by reputable butchers and are hygienically managed. There is no ante-mortem inspection of animals but all carcasses are properly inspected by the Sanitary Inspector who holds the Certificate for Inspection of Meat and Other Foods. There is no Meat Marking scheme in the Borough.

2. Frequent visits were paid to all places where food was prepared for human consumption—bakehouses, restaurants, fried fish shops, food stores, etc. The actual number of visits are shown in the Sanitary Inspector's report. Ice-cream preparation was again subjected to examination. Most of the ice-cream sold in Colwyn Bay, is prepared by large manufacturers whose factories are models of cleanliness and whose methods exclude risk of contamination; but every year a few small producers are found whose ideas of handling

food for sale to the public are not satisfactory and who have to be carefully supervised.

I am glad to note progressive improvement in the management of retail provision and fruit shops. The old "open" front is less often seen than a few years ago and where the verandas are used, the articles of food are now placed on tables.

c. Adulteration.

Mr. D. Wynne Griffiths, Chief Inspector under the Foods and Drugs Acts for the County of Denbigh, has supplied me with the following statement :—

Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.

Particulars of samples of Food and Drugs taken for analysis by the Inspectors of the Denbighshire County Council in the Borough of Colwyn Bay during the year ended 31st December, 1937.

Article.	No. Taken	RESULT OF ANALYSIS	
		Genuine	Not Genuine or sub-standard
Milk	57	53	4
Cream	5	5	
Raisin Wine	1	1	
Lemonade	1	1	
Amm. Tinct. Quinine.....	1	1	
Jam	2	1	1
Pearl Barley	1	1	
Rice	1	1	
Brandy	1	1	
Spirits of Nitre.....	1	1	
Condensed Milk	1	1	
Sausage	4	4	
Tincture of Iodine	1	1	
Corned Beef	1	1	
Coffee	1	1	
Table Cream	1	1	
Ice Cream	2	2	
Salad Cream	1	1	
Totals	83	78	5

Observations.

Of the four samples of milk shown in the Table as being "Not Genuine" three were below the Standard to a

very slight extent, and the remaining one was eliminated by an "Appeal to Cow" sample.

A sample of jam was certified as being below the full fruit standard and the firm concerned immediately withdrew the stock from circulation.

The desirability of fixing a legal standard for Cream, and Ice Cream is emphasised by a comparison of the samples taken, the amount paid, or quantity received apparently being no criterion of the quality; furthermore, the designation under which these articles are sold is often most misleading.

(Sgd.) D. WYNNE GRIFFITH

Chief Inspector of Food and Drugs
for the County of Denbigh.

Colwyn Bay,

10th February, 1938.

d. Chemical Examination of Food is carried out by the Denbigh County Council Officials. These Officials co-operate fully with me, making suggestions and taking samples that might help me in any investigation into food poisoning, etc. that might occur. There were no reported cases of food poisoning in the district during 1937.

Bacteriological Examination of Milk is done at the Agricultural College, Bangor.

c. Nutrition.

Publicity in nutrition has been attempted in 1937. Newspaper reports of talks, special articles, etc. have secured a wide publicity for some items. Leaflets for expectant mothers and advice for mothers having infants and toddlers were printed and distributed at the Clinics. Health Week was held in February, 1938, and was most successful.

A very happy exhibit at the evening school show of work deserves special mention. This was prepared by the teacher and her pupils and was an answer to the often repeated statement that Baking and Cookery classes sacrifice the value of foods or the choice of hygienic foods to the preparation of cakes, etc. that please the eye.

It has not been necessary to take action under the Shell-fish Regulations, 1934. The Shell-fish beds in the Bay are heavily polluted but they are not gathered except for fish bait. The shell-fish sold in the town are imported from reputable markets.

Infectious Diseases.

The following table shows the incidence of infectious disease during the last ten years.

	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Scarlet Fever	34	29	21	22	25	8	12	15	34	48
Diphtheria	16	11	14	85	34	14	21	22	19	51
Enteric Fever	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	8	8	8	8	3	6	5	6	5	10
Encep. Lethargica	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia						2	2	1	1	3
Neonatorum ...	3	1	5	3	2	3	1	1	3	3
Pneumonia	25	67	17	8	16	32	24	12	7	23
Tuberculosis	28	31	15	26	38	48	41	23	50	36
Total	118	149	81	151	120	109	106	80	116	174

There has been a very considerable increase in the incidence of infectious diseases—especially of scarlet fever and diphtheria. A majority of these came from the Colwyn and Llysfaen end of the Borough. In the earlier part of the year there was a large number of cases—both of diphtheria and of scarlet fever. This was a continuation of the increased incidence noted as beginning at the end of 1936. Approximately half of the Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria cases had occurred by the end of March. Thereafter the epidemic died down and the incidence was not unusual. A number of outbreaks in Institutions housing visitors to the town tended to swell the incidence. Three diphtheria carriers were traced and detained until found to be safe.

The type of infection was mild. There was one death from diphtheria and none from scarlet fever. All other cases were so mild that serum was given to only a small number of scarlet fever cases.

Notification of Tuberculosis has fallen but the death rate has increased. There were 5 more deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis during 1937 than in 1936, whereas in 1936, there were 14 more notifications of tuberculosis than in 1937.

Probably this is due to the same causes as increase in the incidence of pneumonia from 7 in 1936 to 23 in 1937.

I received 166 notifications of non-notifiable infectious diseases from the Head Teachers of Schools in the Borough. These are also notified to the County Medical Officer who instructs the School Nurse to visit and report on each. Where Medical aid has not already been secured, she advises and sees to it that the child is not suffering from the deficiency.

These diseases were :—

- (1) Mumps—17 cases that occurred between January and March.
- (2) German Measles—24 occurring mainly in March and April.
- (3)—Measles 96 occurring mainly in October.
- (4) Whooping Cough—24 cases that occurred during the 4th quarter.
- (5) Chickenpox—5 cases.

The following table gives details of cases notified, treated in Hospital and dead. The table does not quite reflect the conditions found as mixed infections were more common than usual during 1937. Actually 7 cases were found to have both scarlet fever and diphtheria. They appear in the table as “scarlet fever,” the disease under which they were primarily admitted and notified. The fact that all cases are admitted to cubicles prevented these mixed infections from causing “cross-infection” during the year—i.e. no person admitted with one disease was infected with another while in Hospital.

Admitted to Hospital during 1937 :—

- 54 Diphtheria.
- 7 Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever.
- 1 Diphtheria and German Measles.
- 1 Diphtheria Carrier.
- 3 Diphtheria (Observations).
- 32 Scarlet Fever.
- 1 Scarlet Fever and German Measles.
- 1 Scarlet Fever and Jaundice.

2 Measles.

3 Puerperal Pyrexia.

1 Observation (Baby 7 weeks old).

1 Observation Enteric (Diagnosed after admission as Tuberculosis.

Notifiable Disease	Number of cases Notified at Ages										Number of deaths at Ages—Years									
	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	total cases remy'd to Hospital	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards	TOTALS.			
Smallpox	51	...	6	31	9	5	...	...	54	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1		
Diphtheria	10	...	...	...	2	2	4	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria Carriers	48	...	4	33	2	8	1	...	32	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	3	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever, etc .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro Spinal	26	...	...	...	4	7	12	3	...	...	...	...	2	1	7	2	12	...		
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	10	1	1	1	3	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	3	...		
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	23	...	...	2	1	7	8	5	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	6	11	...		
Pneumonia	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	174	4	11	67	22	34	26	10	90	1	...	1	3	3	11	8	27	...		
Totals																				

Serum is given freely in the treatment of diphtheria but less freely than in previous years in the treatment of scarlet fever. The type of scarlet fever case admitted rarely justifies serum treatment and the absence of complications during the year proves that treatment was correct.

A stock of Scarlet Fever and Anti-Toxic serum and of Diphtheria Anti-Toxic serum is maintained at the Isolation Hospital and may be obtained by any Medical Practitioner there for use in his private practice. Where such serum is given to

a patient whose economic circumstances warrant it, no charge is made by the Council.

Prontosil or its equivalent is also stocked and may be had by Practitioners for use in suitable cases.

Immunisation against Diphtheria by Alum Toxoid has in the past been offered to children under 5. The Council has instructed me to offer this service free to all children in the Borough. Leaflets have been printed, but owing to pressure of work during the past eight months, they have not been distributed. I hope to be able to do the work in July next. No Schick or Dick testing has been done, nor has any effort been made to control measles or scarlet fever by means of sera.

There have not been any cases of malaria or dysentery in the Borough.

The following figures, supplied by Miss Williams, the Vaccination Officer for the Borough, shows the work done by the Public Vaccinator.

Number of Births for 1937	257
„ „ Successful vaccinations	53
„ „ Exemptions	133
„ „ Died Unvaccinated	11
„ „ Postponed	36
„ „ Removed out of District	10
„ „ Under 4 months not yet vaccinated ...	14
„ „ Insusceptible	Nil

Cancer

There were 45 deaths from cancer registered during 1937. This is below the average for the previous 5 years—which was 50 deaths per annum. The Secretary of the West Denbighshire Hospital informs me that during 1937, 24 persons were treated there for cancer. 38 actually died in Colwyn Bay—the other 7 were Colwyn Bay people who died

in other towns. Of the 38, 29 were female and 9 male. They were distributed as follows—

Aged 40—50	4 persons
Aged 50—60	4 persons
Aged 60—70	16 persons
Aged 70—80	10 persons
Aged 80 & over	4 persons

38

27 of these 38 cases involved the digestive tract while 2 may have done so but the death certificate is not sufficiently clear to allocate them.

The death rate from cancer was 2.1 per 1000 population.

Prevention of Blindness

During the year, with a view to preventing blindness amongst women, the Council appointed a Consultant Ophthalmologist, Mr. Shuttleworth, to examine all women found at the Ante-Natal Clinics to have developed visual defect. In practise women found to have persistent albuminuria will be referred to him. He will also examine children under 5 years of age sent to him from the Chief Welfare Centres and treat where Ophthalmic treatment is likely to be of benefit.

Tuberculosis

No action has been taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations or under Section 62 of the Public Health Act 1925 or Section 172 of the Public Health Act 1936. In several cases, I consulted with Dr. Howell M. Williams with a view to securing the removal of cases to Hospital. After some pressure the persons affected accepted advice.

The following table gives particulars of new cases of tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease in the Borough during 1937—

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 .....	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
1 .....	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
5 .....	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
10 .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	...
20	1	1	...	2	1	...	...	1
25	1	3	...	1	...	...	...	...
35	2	1	...	2	1	...	...	...
45	2	7	...	1	1	4	...	1
55	2	1	...	...	1	1	...	...
65 and upwards ...	2	1	...	...	1	1	...	...
Totals	12	14	2	8	6	6	1	2

Notification is now carried out in a satisfactory manner. In a few cases it has been delayed until near death owing to the refusal of patients to consult a doctor or owing to the extreme acuteness of the disease (e.g. tubercular meningitis). All cases were in fact notified before death.

Disinfection of the bedding, clothes and room was carried out after every death or after removal of a case to Hospital. After each notification full enquiries were made where possible so that inimical conditions, etc., could be properly dealt with and contacts protected or helped.

Dr. Williams, the Tuberculosis Physician for this Area has given me the following figures. I am grateful to him for the help he has given me during the year and for the efforts at co-ordination of the General Health Services with the Tuberculosis Service that are being made,

COLWYN BAY

Return for the Year 1937

Diagnosis	Pulmonary				Non-Pulmonary				Total		Grand Total	
	Adults		Children		Adults		Children		Children			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F				
New Cases examined during the year (excluding contacts)—												
(a) Definitely Tuberculous	3	8	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	9	—	12
(b) Diagnosis not completed ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	3
(c) Non-Tuberculous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	9	18
												—
												33

Contacts examined during the year—

(a) Definitely Tuberculous ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Diagnosis not completed ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	3
(c) Non-Tuberculous	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
							11

Number of attendances at the Dispensary	166
Number of domiciliary visits	68
Number of Transfer Cases from other areas	3

Colwyn Bay Meteorological Observations, 1937

MONTH	Mean reading of Mercurial Baromet- er in Inches	Maximum Thermo- meter F. (mean)	Minimum Thermo- meter F. (mean)	Mean Daily Range of Max. and Min. Thermometers	Dry Bulb Thermometer F. (mean)	Wet Bulb Thermometer F. (mean)	Rainfall in Inches 5 in. Gauge	Number of Rainy Days	Max. Rain in inches during 24 hours and date	Hours Sunshine by Campbell- Stokes Recorder	Number of Days on which Sunshine was recorded	Prevailing Wind
January	29.64	48.2	39.1	9.1	44.1	41.4	2.55	19	0.40 on 20th	34.4	20	S.W.
February	29.49	47.5	39.4	8.1	44.0	41.6	4.17	23	0.80 on 27th	42.9	19	W.
March	29.62	44.0	34.2	9.8	41.0	37.8	1.75	18	0.39 on 16th	114.0	24	S.E.
April	29.78	54.3	43.3	11.0	50.3	46.0	2.06	18	0.52 on 16th	128.5	25	W.
May	29.98	60.1	46.3	13.8	55.3	51.5	1.44	13	0.46 on 20th	215.5	29	N.E.
June	30.03	62.5	51.3	11.2	58.1	54.3	1.12	13	0.31 on 12th	165.2	28	S.W.
July	29.91	66.4	54.6	11.8	61.2	57.8	0.98	17	0.16 on 4th	139.5	29	W.
August	30.06	68.5	55.1	13.4	63.7	59.2	1.05	8	0.40 on 31st	178.6	31	W.
September	29.87	63.4	52.1	11.3	59.0	54.4	1.64	15	0.46 on 12th	131.7	27	W.
October	29.95	56.6	46.2	10.4	53.5	50.3	2.82	12	1.06 on 23rd	80.1	23	W.
November	30.00	49.7	41.1	8.6	46.6	43.9	1.40	10	0.40 on 18th	50.4	21	S.E.
December	29.33	45.0	37.1	7.9	41.8	39.9	1.86	18	0.35 on 4th	29.3	18	S.W.
Mean of Means	29.80	55.5	44.9	10.5	51.5	48.1	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	22.84	184	...	1310.1	294	...

Town Hall,

Colwyn Bay

(Sgd.) W. J. DUNNING, M.Inst. C.E.

Borough Engineer and Surveyor

P. TURPIN

Observer



